



Surface Transportation Board
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

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Meeting under Section 5, STB Reauthorization Act February 27, 2026

April 29, 2021

Part of

Public Record

Present: Members Begeman, Fuchs, Oberman, Primus and Schultz
Staff Jonathan Binet, Rachel Campbell, Ellen Erichsen, Amanda Gorski,
Danielle Gosselin, Jessica Grunberg, Theodore Hunt, Craig Keats, Evelyn
Kitay, Adam Kress, Barbara Miller, Lisa Novins, Janie Sheng, Michael Small,
Alan Tabachnick, Josh Wayland, Elizabeth Webster, Scott Zimmerman

Topic: Docket Nos. AB 167 (Sub-No. 1189X), Consol. Rail Corp.—
Aban. Exemption—in Hudson Cnty., N.J.; AB 55 (Sub-No. 686X), CSX
Transp., Inc.—Discontinuance of Serv. Exemption—in Hudson Cnty., N.J.;
and AB 290 (Sub-No. 306X), Norfolk S. Ry.—Discontinuance of Serv.
Exemption—in Hudson Cnty., N.J.

Summary of the Matters Discussed, Prepared by General Counsel Craig Keats:

At this meeting, staff briefed Board Members on the above-referenced consolidated proceedings. These proceedings involve notices of exemption to abandon and discontinue service on an approximately 1.86-mile line of railroad in the City of Jersey City, N.J., known as the “Harsimus Branch.” The review process under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) is ongoing in these proceedings. Staff and Board Members discussed the history and procedural posture of the proceedings; the historic review process; and a letter from the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation asking that the Board address now a claim asserted by certain parties that Conrail violated Section 110(k) of the NHPA (concerning anticipatory demolition of historic properties).